C O N C O R D I A U N I V E R S I T Y

SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

M I N U T E S

(of SRC meeting held on Thursday, March 28, 1991
at 10:00 A.M., in Room BC-110, SGW campus)

ATTENDANCE -

Members present:	P. Albert, E. Doedel, D. Ginter, M. Kusy, J.N. Lightstone (Chair), B. MacKay, J. McGuire, S. Sankar, M.N.S. Swamy, A. Williams, D. Gold, Evelyne Loo (Secretary)
Absent with regrets:	U. De Brentani, M. Lefebvre, K. Lipke, J. Makkonen, G. Mergen

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED AND DISTRIBUTED TO SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

In Advance:

SRC-03-28-91-D132	Report submitted by the University Research Committee of The Royal Society of Canada - Realizing the Potential: A strategy for University Research in Canada.

At the Meeting:

SRC-03-28-91-D133	The enhancement of research, scholarship and creative activity at Concordia University - Discussion paper dated March 25, 1991.
SRC-03-28-91-D134	Memorandum to AUCC Board of Directors from Standing Advisory Committee on University Research (SACUR).
SRC-03-28-91-D135	Report of the Standing Advisory Committee on University Research, March 1991.
SRC-03-28-91-D136	Memorandum to Department Chairs from Audrey Williams on NSERC Proposal - A New Model

Dr. Jack N. Lightstone occupied the Chair.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 A.M.

1.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved by the Committee.

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

As there were no corrections or additions to the minutes of the last meeting; they were approved.

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

No business resulted from the last meeting.

4.0 REPORTS

4.1 Report of the Director of ORS

A.J. Williams announced that according to the ORS's third quarter report for 1990-91 research funding, is showing a 1% increase over previous year's third quarter. The NSERC results just received for 1991-92 indicate an overall 5% decrease from the previous year. NSERC's proposal document entitled "a new model" was presented to the Committee for information only. The SSHRC and FCAR results will be mailed next week.

Dr. Nigel Lloyd has been appointed Director General, Research Grants, NSERC.

4.2 Report from D. Ginter

4.2.1 Dr. Ginter gave a brief summary of his luncheon meeting discussion with Mr. Pelletier, Director, Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Science. Among the concerns raised by Dr. Ginter was the government's planning agenda in the event of a change and how this might impact on Quebec Universities. Mr. Pelletier reported that no plans or actions are presently under consideration.

4.2.2 Dr. Ginter suggests that the following measures should be taken:

1. We cooperate with other universities to express our concern, contingency planning, and to proceed at the highest level.

2. Concordia should begin contingency planning such as bridge funding, etc.

3. Dr. Ginter also discussed universities' needs for research funding and infrastructure. Mr. Pelletier queried as to how government could choose between devoting more resources to Universities vs. Health Care. Dr. Ginter suggested that the university might establish mission statements and priorities which would form the basis for government decisions and increase their investment in universities.

5.0 "Enhancement of Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity at Concordia University"

5.1 The Chair briefly reviewed the latest revision to this document. The Office of the Rector has approved the document as a discussion paper and the Senate Research Committee has been asked to review and forward the document, with comments to Senate.

Several members voiced their concern on the wordings of certain paragraphs.

Dr. Kusy has been asked to redraft the second paragraph of page 5 to the next SRC meeting.

In addition several minor changes were provisionally suggested:

- Page 9, last paragraph - "Hence, the University should consider strategies which would further the following ***ranked*** priorities:"

- Page 11, last paragraph, number 1 - "Foster ***the further development and*** the establishment of sufficiently ..."

- Page 12, number 4 - "At opportune moments, direct significant resources to ***bolstering or establishing*** these collegial ..."

- Page 13, number 9 - "Base decisions ..... units, departments and ***research*** centres of the University that take into account the above strategies ***within the context and culture of the specific discipline.***"

No firm decisions would be taken on the document until the next SRC meeting.

6. "Realising the Potential" - Royal Society of Canada Report on University Research

6.1 Dr. Lightstone has been requested to coordinate the response to AUCC by June 1. He has invited SRC members, to forward to him any comments they might have in the next couple of weeks.

6.2 Dr. MacKay has suggested a copy should be sent to M. Taylor, Chair, Gender Equity in Matters Academic Advisory Committee for input.

7. Varia

Due to the fact that some of the members will not be available on Thursday, April 11, the next SRC meeting has been postponed to Monday, April 15, 1991 at 1:00 p.m., in Room BC-110.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45.